

## Over 500 Per Cent Increase in the Socialist Vote

(Continued from page 1)

which there were cast 1,537 in 1902 and 3,548 this year, an increase of 2,011.

Nevada—No ticket in 1900 or 1902. Partial returns indicate a good vote. Will probably go 500.

New Hampshire—Reports from the townships of Claremont, Farmington, Hamstead, Exeter and the city of Concord give 201 votes against 129 in 1900 and 159 in 1902. On this basis 1,500 should be reached in this state.

New Jersey—Partial returns from five counties give a total of 2,996. The vote of Hudson county is in the vicinity of 3,000 and will bring the total up to about 6,000. This leaves 15 counties to hear from, and the total vote will be in the vicinity of 10,000; in 1900 Debs received 4,609. Newark increased from 992 in 1902 to 2,040; and Jersey City from about 1,700 to 3,000.

New York—Complete returns have been received from only three counties, giving 3,231 votes. Partial returns from 19 other counties give 8,896, bringing the total reported thus far 12,127. This does not include the city of New York, which it is estimated will poll 25,000 votes, and 39 counties which have not been heard from. State Secretary Chase estimates the total vote of the state at 40,000. Jamestown shows a great increase, from 89 in 1902 to 535 in 1904; Oneida county from 147 in 1902 to 371 in 1904; and Brooklyn from 4,381 in 1902 to 6,500 in 1904.

North Dakota—Thirty-three out of 64 precincts in Cass county give Debs 120 against 57 in 1900. Rolette county gives 85 against 35 in 1902. Two precincts in Walsh and Ward counties give 30 against none in 1900, and three in 1902. Estimate for state, 3,000.

Oklahoma—No returns from state secretary. Partial returns from 19 precincts give Loudermilk, for delegate to congress, 563 votes, showing an increase in every case. Total vote will probably reach 3,000.

Ohio—Returns from 15 counties show a vote of 23,571, the largest number of votes being cast in Cuyahoga county (including Cleveland), 7,823; Hamilton county (including Cincinnati), 7,071; Lucas county (including Toledo), 2,425; Mahoning county (including Youngstown), 1,960, and Montgomery (including Dayton), 1,100. Partial returns from 13 other counties giving 2,133 bring the total vote, so far reported, to 25,704. This leaves 60 counties to hear from and the vote will undoubtedly reach 35,000. The greatest gains were made in Cleveland, from 1,297 in 1902 to 7,316; Cincinnati, from 3,803 to 6,232; Youngstown, from 72 to 1,621; and Akron, from 205 to 893.

Oregon—State secretary estimates 12,000 Socialist votes in state. Partial returns received at this office show a great increase over last spring. Multnomah county, including the city of Portland, polls 2,400.

Pennsylvania—Complete returns from 21 counties give a total of 11,121. Partial returns from seven other counties giving 1,867 bring the total to 12,988, with 39 counties to hear from. The city of Reading increased from 169 in 1900 to 1,153 in 1904; Erie gave 1,062, as against 462 in 1900, and Mercer county, including the city of Sharon, increased from 153 in 1902 to 950 in 1904. All indications point to a slight increase over the abnormal vote of 1902, and the total will probably amount to the neighborhood of 25,000.

Rhode Island—No presidential ticket in 1900. In 1903 the vote for governor was 309. This year it is 789 for Debs. The S. L. P. vote declined from 943 last year to 444 this year.

South Dakota—Returns from Brown, Clark and Beadle counties

give 314 against 269 in 1902. Estimate for state, 3,000.

Tennessee—Four counties and nine towns in other counties give 937. The Memphis comrades report fraud in their county, the returns only giving them 75, the same vote cast in 1900, when nearly 500 was assured. Estimate for state, 2,000.

Texas—Reports from nine precincts and towns that polled 14 in 1900 and 164 in 1902 show 512 for 1904. At the same ratio the vote should reach 10,000.

Utah—Returns from Utah show an increase all over the state. Salt Lake county will give 3,400, an increase of nearly 300 per cent, and as other localities make like increases, the total will be in the neighborhood of 5,000.

Vermont—State Secretary Anderson reports estimate of 1,000.

Virginia—Newport News reports increase from 37 in 1902 to 61 this year. Estimate for state, 500.

Washington—State Secretary Martin reports conservative estimate of 15,000 out of a total vote of 130,000. Three counties alone aggregate nearly 5,000. In Spokane the party polled 10 per cent of total vote.

West Virginia—No report from state secretary. Partial returns give 1,240 votes and indicate that the total vote will probably reach 3,000. Ohio county increased from 117 in 1900 to 372 in 1904.

Wisconsin—In Milwaukee county, four members of the state assembly and one state senator were elected. All the successful candidates are workingmen, there being three cigarmakers, one machinist and one painter. Comrades Berger and Gaylord made a great run for congress, Berger being beaten by only 1,632 and running ahead of the democrat; Gaylord by less than 4,000. The vote was increased more than 2,000 in each of these congressional districts. The total vote of Milwaukee is 18,362, which is more than Parker received. Partial returns from the state warrant an estimate that the total vote will reach 45,000. The names of those elected are: Ninth assembly district, Edward J. Berner, cigarmaker; 11th district, Frederick Brockhausen, cigarmaker; 12th district, Wm. J. Aldridge, machinist; 16th district, Andrew Strichlow, painter; and for state senator, Jacob Rummel, cigarmaker.

Wyoming—State secretary sends no report. Returns slow in coming in, but all give good increase. Total vote will probably reach 1,500. Incomplete returns give 815. Laramie county increased from 186 in 1902 to 250 in 1904. WILLIAM MAILLY, Nat. Sec.

The Helena Socialist local adopted a rule at their last meeting requiring that all new applicants be considered for thirty days before being accepted or rejected by the organization. This will give the new member an opportunity to be present at four meetings before he becomes a part of the organization, and during this time he will have an opportunity of learning what is required of a workingman to become a member of the only class conscious party in existence.

There is an opportunity for you union men who supported Joe Toole and other non-union men while union nominees were in the field, to get yourselves aligned now with the movement of your class. A movement that will not give Joe Toole a \$23,000 mansion and you fellows who voted for him a rented \$10 shack. How about getting in now?

The worker who gives a vote to a nominee on the capitalist ticket, whether there is a man on the Socialist ticket or not, gives a half vote for capitalism. In fact he assists in riveting the chains of slavery tighter.

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## Socialist National Platform

I.

We, the Socialist party, in convention assembled, make our appeal to the American people as the defender and preserver of the idea of liberty and self-government, in which the nation was born; as the only political movement standing for the program and principles by which the liberty of the individual may become a fact; as the only political organization that is democratic, and that has for its purpose the democratizing of the whole of society.

To this idea of liberty the republican and democratic parties are utterly false. They alike struggle for power to maintain and profit by an industrial system which can be preserved only by the complete overthrow of such liberties as we already have, and by the still further enslavement and degradation of labor.

Our American institutions came into the world in the name of freedom. They have been seized upon by the capitalist class as the means of rooting out the idea of freedom from among the people. Our state and national legislatures have become the mere agencies of great propertied interests. These interests control the appointments and decisions of the judges of our courts. They have come into what is practically a private ownership of all the functions and forces of government. They are using these to betray and conquer foreign and weaker peoples, in order to establish new markets for the surplus goods which the people make, but are too poor to buy. They are gradually so invading and restricting the right of suffrage as to take unawares the right of the worker to a vote or voice in public affairs. By enacting new and misinterpreting old laws, they are preparing to attack the liberty of the individual even to speak or think for himself or for the common good.

By controlling all the sources of social revenue, the possessing class is able to silence what might be the voice of protest against the passing of liberty and the coming of tyranny. It completely controls the university and public schools, the pulpit and the press, arts and literatures. By making these economically dependent upon itself, it has brought all the forms of public teaching into servile submission to its own interests.

Our political institutions are also being used as the destroyers of that individual property upon which all liberty and opportunity depend. The promise of economic independence to each man was one of the faiths in which our institutions were founded. But under the guise of defending private property, capitalism is using our political institutions to make it impossible for the vast majority of human beings to ever become possessors of private property in the means of life.

Capitalism is the enemy and destroyer of essential private property. Its development is through the legalized confiscation of all that the labor of the working class produces, above its subsistence wage. The private ownership of the means of employment grounds society in an economic slavery which renders intellectual and political tyranny inevitable.

Socialism comes so to organize industry and society that every individual shall be secure in that private property in the means of life upon which his liberty of being, thought and action depend. It comes to rescue the people from the fast increasing and successful assault of capitalism upon the liberty of the individual.

II.

As an American Socialist party, we pledge our fidelity to the principles of international Socialism, as embodied in the united thought and action of the Socialists of all nations. In the industrial development already accomplished, the interests of the world's workers are separated by no national boundaries. The condition of the most exploited and oppressed workers in the most remote places of the earth inevitably tends to drag down all the workers of the world

to the same level. The tendency of the competitive wage system is to make labor's lowest condition the measure or rule of its universal condition. Industry and finance are no longer national, but international in both organization and results. The chief significance of national boundaries, and of so-called patriotisms which the ruling class of each nation is seeking to revive, is the power which these give to capitalism to keep the workers of the world from uniting, and to throw them against each other in the struggles of contending capitalist interests for the control of the yet unexploited markets of the world, or the remaining sources of profit.

The Socialist movement, therefore, is a world movement. It knows of no conflicts between the workers of one nation and the workers of another. It stands for the freedom of the workers of all nations; and, in so standing, it makes for the full freedom of all humanity.

III.

The Socialist movement owes its birth and growth to that economic development or world-process which is rapidly separating a working or producing class from a possessing or capitalist class. The class that produces nothing possesses labor's fruits, and the opportunities and enjoyments these fruits afford, while the class that does the world's real work has increasing economic uncertainty, and physical and intellectual misery as its portion.

The fact that these two classes have not yet become fully conscious of their distinction from each other, the fact that the lines of division and interest may not yet be clearly drawn, does not change the fact of the class conflict.

This class struggle is due to the private ownership of the means of employment, or the tools of production. Wherever and whenever man owned his own land and tools, and by them produced only the things which he used, economic independence was possible. But production, or the making of goods, has long ceased to be individual. The labors of scores or even thousands, enters into almost every article produced. Production is now social or collective. Practically everything is made or done by many men—sometimes separated by seas or continents—working together for the same end. But this co-operation in production is not for the direct use of the things made by the workers who make them, but for the profit of the owners; and to this is due the present division of society into two distinct classes; and from it has sprung all the miseries, inharmonies and contradictions of our civilization.

Between these two classes there can be no possible compromise or identity of interests, any more than there can be peace in the midst of war, or light in the midst of darkness. A society based upon this class division carries in itself the seeds of its own destruction. Such a society is founded in fundamental injustice. There can be no possible basis for social peace, for individual freedom, for mental and moral harmony, except in the conscious and complete triumph of the working class as the only class that has the right or power to be.

IV.

The Socialist program is not a theory imposed upon society for its acceptance or rejection. It is but the interpretation of what is, sooner or later, inevitable. Capitalism is already struggling to its destruction. It is no longer competent to organize or administer the work of the world, or even to preserve itself. The captains of industry are appalled at their own inability to control or direct the rapidly socializing forces of industry. The so-called trust is but a sign and form of this developing socialization of the world's work. The universal increase of the uncertainty of employment, the universal capitalist determination to break down the unity of labor in the trades unions, the widespread apprehensions of impending change, reveal that the institutions of capitalist society are passing under the power

of inhering forces that will soon destroy them.

Into the midst of the strain and crisis of civilization, the Socialist movement comes as the only saving or conservative force. If the world is to be saved from chaos, from universal disorder and misery, it must be by the union of the workers of all nations in the Socialist movement. The Socialist party comes with the only proposition or program for intelligently and deliberately organizing the nation for the common good of all its citizens. It is the first time that the mind of man has ever been directed toward the conscious organization of society.

Socialism means that all those things upon which the people in common depend shall by the people in common be owned and administered. It means that the tools of employment shall be long to their creators and users; that all production shall be for the direct use of the producers; that the making of goods for profit shall come to an end; that we shall all be workers together, and that opportunities shall be open and equal to all men.

V.

To the end that the workers may seize every possible advantage that may strengthen them to gain complete control of the powers of government and thereby the sooner establish the co-operative commonwealth, the Socialist party pledges itself to watch and work in both the economic and the political struggle for each successive immediate interest of the working class; for shortened days of labor and increase of wages; for the insurance of the workers against accident, sickness and lack of employment; for pensions for aged and exhausted workers; for the public ownership of the means of transportation, communication and exchange; for the graduated taxation of incomes, inheritances, and of franchise and land values, the proceeds to be applied to public employment and bettering the condition of the workers; for the equal suffrage of men and women; for the prevention of the use of the military against labor in the settlement of strikes; for the free administration of justice; for popular government, including initiative, referendum, proportional representation, and the recall of officers by their constituents; and for every gain or advantage for the workers that may be wrested from the capitalist system, and that may relieve the suffering and strengthen the hands of labor. We lay upon every man elected to any executive or legislative office the first duty of striving to procure whatever is for the workers' most immediate interest, and for whatever will lessen the economic and political powers of the capitalist and increase the like powers of the worker.

But, in so doing, we are using these remedial measures as means to the one great end of the co-operative commonwealth. Such measures of relief as we may be able to force from capitalism are but a preparation of the workers to seize the whole powers of government, in order that they may thereby lay hold of the whole system of industry, and thus come into their rightful inheritance.

To this end we pledge ourselves, as the party of the working class, to use all political power, as fast as it shall be entrusted to us by our fellow workers, both for their immediate interests and for their ultimate and complete emancipation. To this end we appeal to all the workers of America, and to all who will lend their lives to the service of the workers in their struggle to gain their own, and to all who will nobly and disinterestedly give their days and energies unto the workers' cause to cast their lot and faith with the Socialist party. Our appeal for the trust and suffrages of our fellow workers is at once an appeal for their common good and freedom, and for the freedom and blossoming of our common humanity. In pledging ourselves, and those we represent, to be faithful to the appeal which we make, we believe that we are but preparing the soil of the economic freedom from which will spring the freedom of the whole man.